



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

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The next **meeting** is at the

Simi Senior Center,

3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.

Thursday June 12, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

The next **Pizza** Night is at

Toppers Pizza, 2408 Erringer Rd, Simi Valley

June 5 at 6:00 PM

Go to Field Day. Ronald Reagan Library, June 28-29.

Voting for club officers is at the **June** meeting. Want to try for one of the positions?

Dues are due in **June**. Print out the last page, or we will have a few forms at the meeting.

At the meetings, the **raffles** are intended to be a fundraiser for the club. Clean out your piggy bank and bring a few dollars to the meetings!

June 2025

For our ACS / ARES members, and anyone else who is interested:

Ventura County Board of Supervisors Declares June “Amateur Radio Month”

Please plan to attend the Ventura County Board of Supervisors meeting at **9 a.m.** on **Tuesday, June 3**, when all Ventura County Amateur Radio operators will be recognized with a proclamation honoring their service to the community.

All are welcome (and encouraged) to attend.

This is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate our presence and to receive recognition for the many activities we engage in throughout the year.

The meeting is televised and it's also a great way to promote our Field Day activities later in the month.

Call sign badges and tasteful ham-related apparel is appropriate to wear if you have them.

The meeting will be held at: 800 S. Victoria Ave., Ventura CA 93009 on June 03 - Please plan to arrive by 8:30 a.m.

Thank you!

County Government Center

Hall of Administration

Board of Supervisors

Hearing Room

800 S. Victoria Avenue

Ventura, California 93009

June 2025

American Radio Relay League (ARRL) - Field Day

Members of the VCARS will be joined by members of the Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club and other licensed Amateur Radio operators, all operating under the Special Events call-sign of "N6R"

American Radio Relay League (ARRL) "Field Day": This Amateur Radio Emergency Communications exercise has been held on the beautiful grounds of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library & Museum for the past several years on the fourth full-weekend of June.

For the event, members of the Ventura County Amateur Radio Society (VCARS) will be joined by members of the Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club (SSARC) and other licensed Amateur Radio operators ("Hams"), all operating under the Special Events call-sign of "N6R" (honoring former President and Mrs. Reagan). The annual 24-hour "Field Day" exercise (officially starting at 11 AM on Saturday, June 28th), promotes public awareness and provides training experience for local Amateur Radio operators. By its conclusion (at 11 AM on Sunday, June 29th), event participants at the Library will have established Amateur Radio Communications with thousands of other clubs, groups, and individuals throughout North America and other countries, most of whom were also operating under simulated emergency conditions.

During the "Field Day" event, visitors to the Reagan Presidential Library are welcome to inspect the portable radio stations and antennas, setup in various places around the external grounds of the Presidential Library. Feel free to ask questions, listen to contacts being made with other operators, and perhaps even try your hand at making a contact yourself!

Setup will start Friday June 27.

Communications will start Saturday June 28 at 11:00 AM.

Communications will cease Sunday June 29 at 11:00 AM.

Tear down and clean up immediately following.

June 2025

A selection of NETS

Monday	Condor Connection (Plays Newslines)	7:00 PM	Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7
Tuesday	County ACS HF net	6:30 PM	Summer 7.242 +/- Winter 3.987 +/-
	ACS Area 1 - Simi Simplex net	6:45 PM	145.510 MHz Simplex
	ACS Area 1 - Simi Repeater net	7:00 PM	Simi Repeater 146.805 -0.6 MHz PL 100.0
	ATN-CA Net	7:30 PM	https://www.atn-tv.com
	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
Wednesday	Channel Islands chapter 10-10 International	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	28.34 MHz
	Mesh VOIP Net* Voice / video / data	8:00 PM	2.4/5.8 GHz Mesh
Thursday	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
Friday			
Saturday	SSARC SSB HF Net	8:30 AM	7.240 (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter
	CW-QRP	9:00 AM	7.032 MHz
	Quad Squad net	1:00 PM	21.365 MHz
Sunday	The Newbie net	7:00 PM	Bozo Repeater 147.885 -0.6 MHz PL 127.3
	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
	SSARC 2 Meter Net**	8:30 PM	Simi Repeater 146.805 -0.6 MHz PL100.0

Additional listings of **MORE** local nets can be found on the CVARC web site at: <http://www.cvarc.org>

* For more information, see <http://www.pvarc.club/mesh/mesh-applications/>

Our Sunday night control 8:30 on the Simi Repeater:

Jun 1	Kerwyn N6YHX
8	Matt KN6SEC
15	Brian KM6MIN
22	Kevin KD6UTC
29	Matt N3AR

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ACS/ARES Corner

Frank Valdez KI6OQ is the Area 1 Emergency Coordinator

We are always looking for ACS members that would like to become Net Controllers. You will receive hands-on training at the Simi Valley PD (where we normally conduct the Weekly Net). It is both fun and at times challenging. You will gain valuable experience in running a controlled Net as well as becoming more than just familiar with the equipment in the Radio Room at the PD. If you would like to volunteer for this, just message Frank Valdez at frankki6oq@gmail.com.



If anyone is interested in how to set up your own packet station, RMS Winlink station, or a Mesh Node, contact Frank, he will point you in the right direction.

The **Area 1** (Simi Valley) net occurs **Tuesdays**. Generally it is just a brief check in, but usually some news about upcoming events is passed on. **Stop by and say Hi**. You do not have to do anything other than check in to test out your simplex or repeater connection.

The Tuesday **HF net** during summer months is on 7.242 +/- at **6:30 PM**.

During the winter, it is back to 3.987 lower side band.

The Tuesday **simplex net** is on 145.510 at **6:45 PM**.

The Tuesday **repeater net** is on the 146.805 (-0.6 MHz, PL 100) repeater at **7:00 PM**.

NOTE: Please be advised that we hold the Tuesday **countywide** net at 19:30 (7:30PM) on the Sulphur Mountain WD6EBY repeater 145.200, minus 600 KHz offset, CTCSS of 127.3. Until further notice, this will be our standard frequency for countywide communications.

Visit vccomm.org for more updates.

For the Tuesday night nets:

3-Jun-25 FrankValdez

10-Jun-25 Lisa Trent

17-Jun-25 Ron Nelson

24-Jun-25 Eric Oberg

KI6OQ

KK6AKR

K6RIN

KE6MLF

ORT

June 2025

Member Updates

The Settlers Picnic From Mike KV6I



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Donnies Tower Work From Richard KN6RCC

Here is the email from Donnie:

Hello fellow Settlers,

All the parts for some upgrades are in and I was thinking of starting the install tomorrow. I have the following planned;

- Afix Verna tilt over mechanism
- Tilt over (lower) tower
- Add mast extension
- Remove dual band and replace with Triband for Winlink Gateway
- Put connector on existing cat 6 shielded cable
- Add Aredn Antenna
- Run cat 6 shielded to leave as spare for future Aredn Chatsworth link
- add wind anemometer to lower section
- Remove tilt over mechanism and install new Homebrew
- Re raise tower
- If time permits - Replace battery box charger with 30 amp for Reagan Library field day.

All work is on the ground and the weather 75 degrees.

Will probably start around 7am (ish)

If you're interested in helping or just stopping by at that time or later, shoot me a text.

Donnie

Quite the ambitious list, eh? Here is the follow up email with the results:

Thank you to **Todd** and **Richard**, with Kerwin in the hopper in case we needed more help. Very helpful! We were able to address everything except the battery box.

We now have all 3 bands 2m/220/440 options for our winlink gateway here in Simi. I will chat with Frank and Ron and see if any should be dedicated for packet or if it makes more sense to have all Vara options.

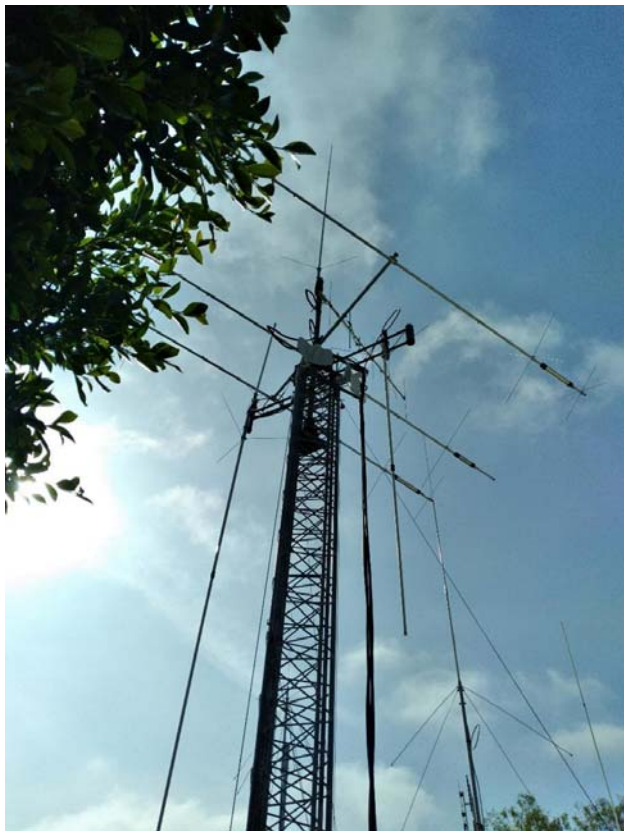
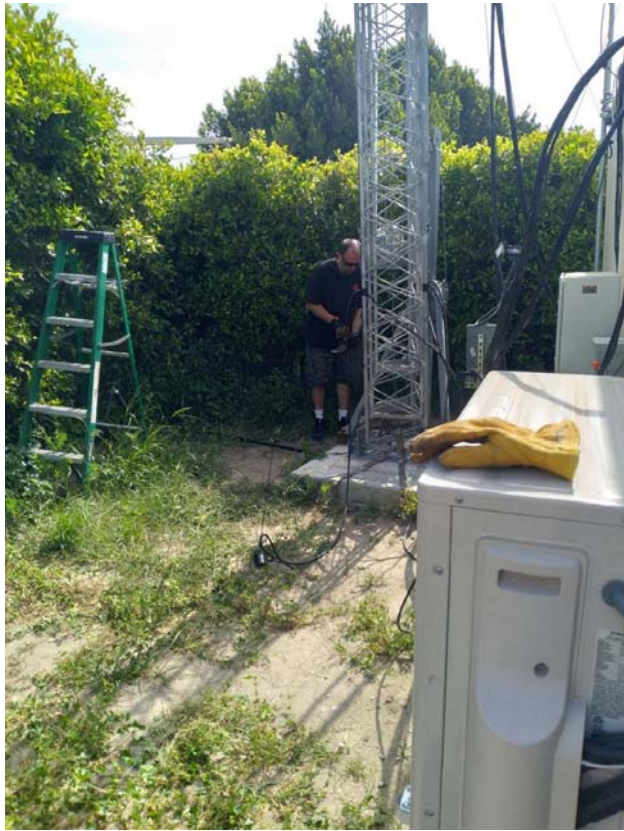
Thank you again Todd and Richard!

Donnie

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(I have not yet been to Donnies to see the shack or tower. When the wet bar AND frozen yogurt machine are up and running, I am up for a visit.) - ed

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Science Fair 160 in 1 by Eric KE6MLF

I am reliving my long lost childhood (maybe I never stopped?) by getting some old toys off of ebay. I paid like \$20 for this electronic project box a few years ago. The wires, earphone, and morse code key were still wrapped up in plastic, unused. Most importantly, it had the project book. I am slowly puttering through the book building **everything**. Wires and springs connect the bits to make all sorts of circuits.

I must have been drinking more than usual, or maybe even STOPPED for a bit, and mistakenly **left** the batteries in the holder. They got fuzzy and ate the spring contacts. The orange square in the lower right only has a tiny bit of damage.

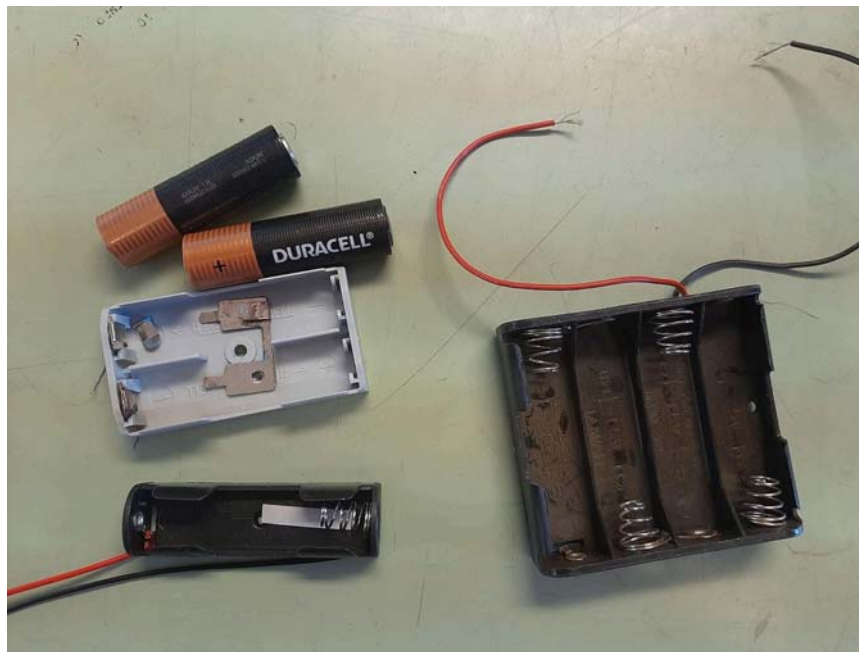


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Here is the original battery holder for 2 AA cells. Dead.



Dang, I have a single cell, and 4 cell, but no dual holder to replace the grey one.



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Rather than resorting to buying something new, I have an option already sitting around. An AA battery has 2,000 to 2,500 mAh capacity. I have a pouch LIPO cell with 5,000 mAh capacity. **How about putting it underneath the card stock?** Probably could power my tinkering for 6 months as often as I play with this. A bit of velcro, connect the wires to the bottom side of the spring connectors, and it is **ready to go**.



There's a New Repeater in Town! by Orv W6Bbi

On Friday May 23rd Mike K6MJU, Eric KB6DYJ, Paul WD6EBY and I went to the SimiNorth radio site (north of the north end of Sycamore Drive). We were accompanied by Mike's 10 year old son Theo :-). There we installed a UHF repeater for Simi Valley ("We" - Mike and Eric did the bulk of the work). Mike donated almost all of the equipment!

It's on 447.640 MHz, with a 131.8 PL. It's running 25 watts and should have excellent coverage of most of Simi Valley and some points west. It should also reach into some of the San Fernando Valley. (Coverage map here: https://darn.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/DARN29-440_Simi_Valley.png). Signal reports would be appreciated!

[picture1.jpg]

It uses a pair of surplus Motorola "CDM" UHF transceivers. They are excellent radios and available fairly inexpensively. The transmitter in one is used and the receiver in the other. This is almost a local standard - DARN uses it at all their repeater sites as does Paul WD6EBY at his sites. Other systems use it, too.

The controller for the Simi repeater is by ARCOM. It has three independent radio ports, each configurable as a repeater, remote base, or link port. One of the ports has an "RTCM" on it which will eventually be used to set up an Allstar node. The RTCM could also be used to link to another repeater, maybe at Mellow Lane - TBD.

The antenna uses stacked folded dipoles. They use the mast as a reflector to direct RF energy away from the mast, given each dipole some directivity. By arranging each pair at 90 degrees to the other, as in our case, they will create an omnidirectional pattern.

[picture4.jpg]

Note - there's a distant repeater on the same pair that you may hear occasionally. To avoid hearing it, set your radios to decode PL as well as encode. The repeater transmitter is sending the same PL of 131.8 Hz. If you're using Chirp to program your radio, it's called TSQL (Tone Squelch); that will set both encode and decode to the same tone.

Also installed was a repeater for the DARN system (darn.org). If you're not familiar with DARN (the Disaster Area Radio Network) they have almost 50 repeaters on 6-Meters, 2-Meters, 220 MHz, 440 MHz, and 1200 MHz, in over 25 locations in Southern California and other areas. Our site is "DARN 29". While it's a closed system if you spend much time in L.A. County or Orange County it's probably worthwhile to join. It's only a buck a week, and they're all nice folks.

The DARN repeater at SimiNorth (DARN 29) is on 447.600 MHz with a PL of 107.2. While it's just using an omni antenna, it should cover Simi Valley fairly well. It's linked to the DARN system via Verdugo Peak above Burbank. Signals will be noisy across the link until the link antenna at Verdugo is repointed to Simi Valley (it's pointed at Palos Verdes at the moment).

[picture3]

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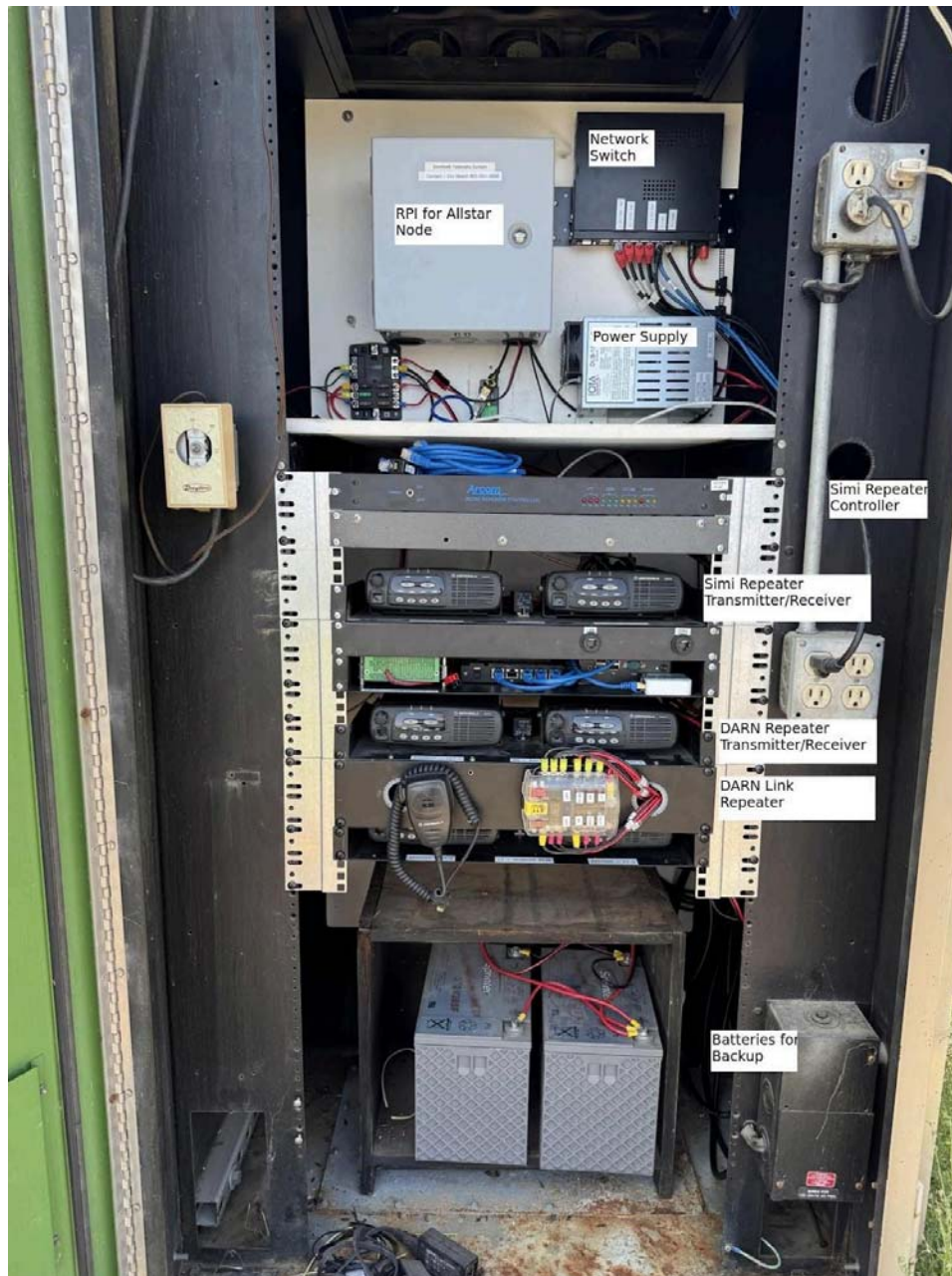
If you'd like to see more (way too many more!) photos of our installation day, they're here:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/mXNyQ66ComDKXmLi9>

Enjoy!

73

Orv W6BI



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Shortwave Receiver Hum by Eric KE6MLF

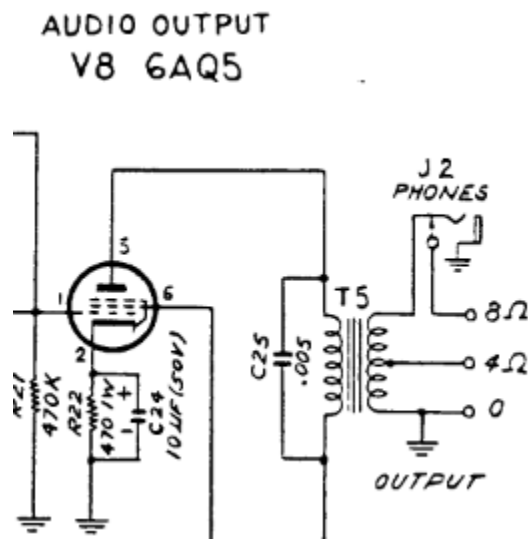
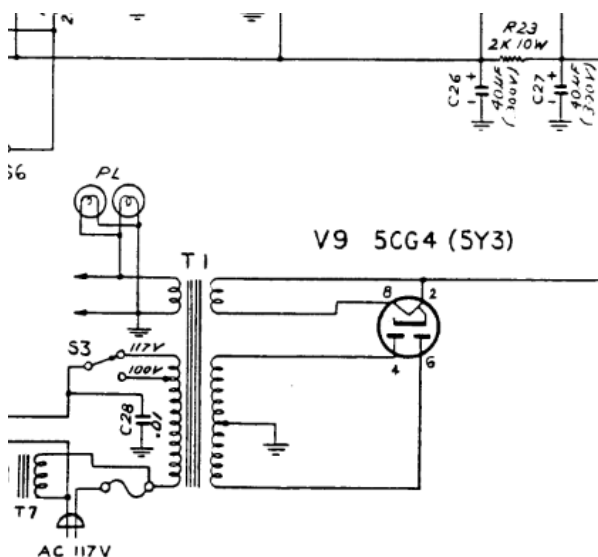
Patrick WB6USZ, gave us this Lafayette HA-230 a few years ago, I snapped it up to keep it alive. Remember a year ago when the dial string broke? I still have PTSD from the restringing task. Anyway, I turned the radio on last month to try and find the HF Swap Net for some background noise. A new and annoying hum was riding on the audio, making it awful to listen to. Argh!



What makes radios that were built in **1965** hum? There are only a few types of components in this radio - tubes, resistors, transformers, and capacitors. Since the receiver works, and the hum is on all bands, this problem maybe comes from a capacitor not filtering out the rectified AC power. Aluminum electrolytic capacitors have a finite life span and so is the mostly likely suspect. 60 years is probably way past the expected life.

On the left is the AC input, with the two section filter cap in the upper right corner.

On the right is the audio output to a speaker or headphones, with the capacitor just below the vacuum tube.



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Just taking a wild guess, I found the schematic and saw that this radio only has 3 electrolytic capacitors. (Look for the little “+” on schematics for polarized capacitors.) Two of the caps are mounted in the same can!

One of the problems with these older electronics is that there is no “road map” as to where the components are located in the chassis. Took a bit of wire tugging and ohm meter beeping to find things. This silver can is the capacitor with 2 sections in it.



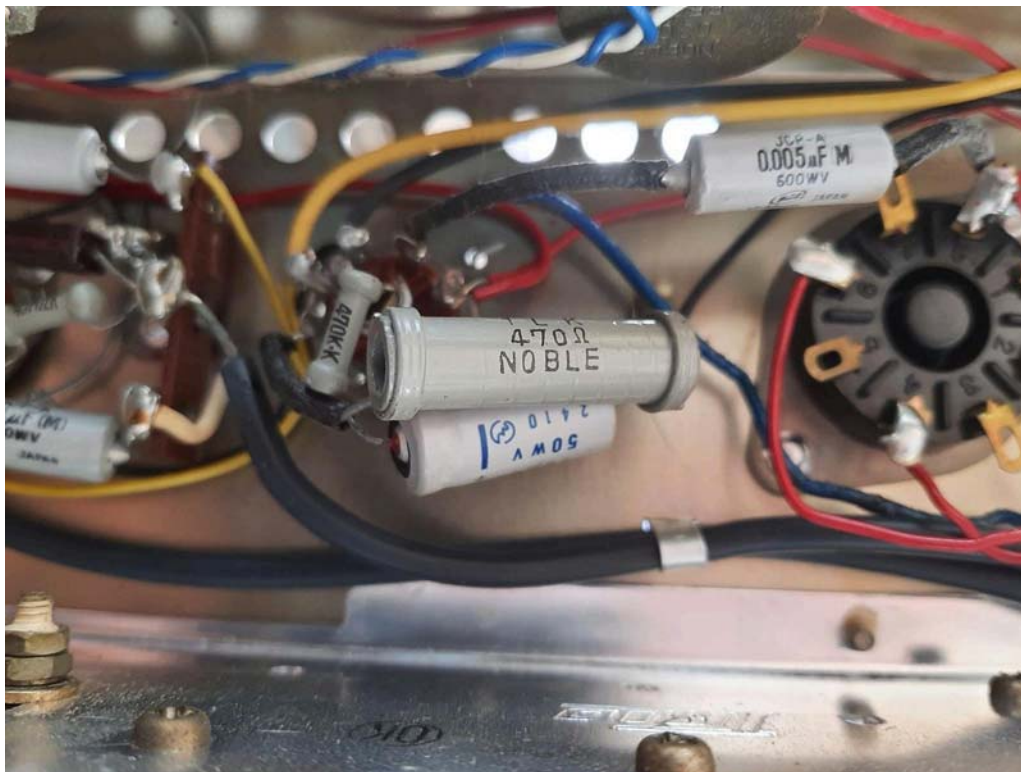
Yup, 40 uF at 300 volts, just like the schematic.



The multi section cap is right near the input transformer and rectifier tube that turns AC input DC (the fat one on the right). The skinny tube in the middle (with the wire clip) is the final audio amplifier tube.



And on the bottom of the audio amplifier tube is a resistor and capacitor (the lighter grey tube with the blue symbols).



Just to check, I used a voltmeter to check things out. 1st, I made sure this older radio did not have a “hot” chassis, that **could shock you** depending on which way you plugged in the line cord. **Both plug tabs are the same size, and no ground pin.**

I put one side of the meter on the ground with an alligator clip lead, so I only had to touch 1 wire for the measurements. No sparks, please.

DC of the first section was 245 volts, with an AC component of **10 volts!**

DC of the second section was 141 volts, with an AC component of 1 volt.

This is AFTER the rectifier tube, so there should be NO AC. OK, really, what is my volt meter measuring? Not AC, not DC, but DC with ripple. Accurate? Probably not, but I think 10 volts ripple on 245 volts is a lot. **Thus, this power supply filter capacitor is the bad guy.**

I actually have a 10 uF 50 volt cap from an old project, but the multiple section cap? Off to the internet, and found it at Antique Electronic Supply. Jeeze, I thought this radio was “vintage”, not really an antique. \$36 is a bunch for a capacitor, but how many times do I have to replace it? In the cart, purchased, and on the way. **Stay tuned for next month** where I put the two new caps back in and give it a try.

Antique Electronic Supply

Welcome! [Log in](#) or [Register](#) to access your account.

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Home / Products / Capacitors

Capacitor - CE Mfg., 450V, 40/40µF, Electrolytic

CE Manufacturing USA-made multisection can capacitor. Reproduced To Exact Mallory Specs Using Original Mallory Machinery.

- 2 sections - 40/40µF at 450V
- -10%, +50% tolerance
- 85° temperature rating
- 1-3/8" dia. x 2.6" tall

[Product Data](#) [Measurements and Specs](#)

SKU:	C-EC40X2-450
Item ID:	046992
Brand:	CE Manufacturing
Capacitance:	40 µF
Termination Style:	Solder Lugs/Tabs
Type:	Electrolytic, Multi-Section / Can Type
Voltage Rating:	450 V

RoHS Compliant



Click to zoom in

Customer Images:
No Images yet! Submit a product image below!

[Submit your own product image!](#)

\$36⁸⁶
Save 10% Originally: \$40.95

June 2025

Internet Resources

simisettlers.org - us!

cvarc.org - Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club

k6mep.org - Ventura County Amateur Radio Club

vcars.org - Ventura County amateur Radio Society

pvarc.club - The home of many of the counties repeaters

arednmesh.org - Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network

vccomm.org - Ventura County ACS / ARES

www.arrl.org - American Radio Relay League

archive.org/details/simi-settlers-arc - Our old newsletters!

qrz.com - forums, for sale, articles - **Create your profile here!**

eham.net - forums, for sale, articles (kind of a zombie site)

www.theborednet.net - a local bulletin board including net schedules and **stuff** for sale!

Under the **groups.io** banner (a free account is required):

groups.io/g/SimiSettlers/messages - A great place to post

groups.io/g/SIMI-VALLEY-HAMMESHNET/messages

vc-acs.groups.io/g/main/messages

vc-acs.groups.io/g/area-1/messages

SSARC Marketplace

This section of the newsletter is for Simi Settler club members to post various used or previously owned items for sale that they may no longer have a need or use of. Please submit a brief description of the sale items (along with a photo if possible) and suggested price to Eric Oberg KE6MLF, the newsletter editor, at least two days before newsletter publication. It is suggested that a portion of each sale be donated to the SSARC treasury to help support the club's several activities. The term "OBO" means "Or Best Offer" and serves only as a starting point in negotiating a fair price.

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MFJ-335 MOBILE ANTENNA MAGNETIC MOUNT



This heavy-duty 5" diameter magnetic antenna mount uses a powerful 2.5 pound magnetic base for secure mounting on top of most vehicles. It features a standard 3/8-24 threaded receptacle for attaching various hamstick or other whip antennas as needed. The 9-1/2 ft. length of RG-58 cable has a standard PL-259 UHF end connector. Typical cost of this magnetic antenna mount from MFJ or DX Engineering is \$29.95.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$5 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

LAFAYETTE RADIO MODEL TE-50 TUBE TESTER



This portable tube tester from Lafayette Radio is perfect for testing vacuum tubes from classic radios and television receivers sold back in the day. It has eight tube sockets capable of testing standard Octal, Loctal, 7-pin miniature, 9-pin miniature types as well as 9- and 12-pin Compactron tubes and nuvistor tubes that were popular back in the 1950's and 1960's. Tests include leakage, shorts and tube emission (e.g.- gain or μ -measurements). The tester includes a slide-out chart drawer plus supplemental charts for newer-type tubes listing the required selector switch and slide switch settings for each tube under test including a test clip for testing tubes with high-voltage anode top caps such as those used for horizontal sweep circuits of earlier televisions. Similar Lafayette Model TE-50 Tube Testers are listed on E-Bay for \$99.99 or more.

Condition: Very Good Price: \$5 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

June 2025

From Glenn WA6GNB

GrandStream # 1620/1625 telephone for sale. New – still in the original box. Compatible with our MESH system. \$30.00 Contact Glen at gnb.2112@yahoo.com

From Orv W6BI

(orv.beach@gmail.com)

Signalink USB - interface between radio and computer for digital modes - \$75



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club Web Page: <http://www.simisetters.org/index.htm>
 Simi Settlers' ARC Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettlersARC>
 Mail: P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, CA 93062-2125

Simi Settlers' Leadership				
President	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Vice President	Matt Kaufman	N3AR	(818) 425-0920	matt.d.kaufman@gmail.com
Secretary	Ron Nelson	K6RIN	(805) 797-6315	rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	(805) 791-0745	ericoberg1@gmail.com
Membership	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745	kj6lxj@gmail.com
PIO	VACANT			
Raffle Prizes	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(805) 433-4513	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Youth Coordinator	VACANT			
Historian	Mike Tweedy	KV6I	(805) 231-9683	mtweedy@roadrunner.com
Net Coordinator	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Food Services	VACANT			
Room Coordinator	VACANT			
Elmers and Members at Large				
Past-President	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019	AB6BW1@gmail.com
Advisor	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		ki6ksv@gmail.com
Advisor Morse Code	John Percival	WI6O		johnspercival1@gmail.com
Advisor Mesh	Orv Beach	W6BI		orv.beach@gmail.com

June 2025

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (www.simisetters.org)

Membership Application



Type of Application:

New Member ☐
Renewal ☐

Type of Membership:

Individual (\$25/yr) ☐
Family (\$30/yr) ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Alt. Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Additional Family Members:

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ No ☐

Badges requested: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X \$18.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

Shirt Printing: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X \$25.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____ (Self Supplied Polo Shirt, no emblem or pocket)

Hats Requested: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X \$20.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Application type: New ☐ Renewal ☐ Membership type: Individual ☐ Family ☐

Date Received: _____ Amount Received: _____ Database completed: _____

Badges and Shirts ordered: _____

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